

Present: Alderpersons John Ellington, Heather Kierzek & Kathleen Thurow  
Absent: None  
Also Present: Finance Director, Cynthia Haggard; Police Captain, Rob Sinden; City Attorney, Emily Truman; City Engineer, Tom Pinion; Parks and Recs Director, Mike Hardy; Mayor, Mike Palm.  
Citizen Present: None

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Ellington at 8:00AM, with roll call and noting compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

Motion by Thurow to approve the November 2, 2020 minutes, seconded by Kierzek and unanimously carried.

Motion by Ellington to amend the agenda, seconded by Kierzek and unanimously carried.

#### Discussion item about allowing ducks

Truman started the discussion with reminding the Committee that she provided them with a lot of information along with sample ordinances from other communities. Truman deferred expertise about what's needed in an ordinance to Hardy. Hardy had spoken with the USDA that regulates the animals at the zoo. The USDA does not regulate birds. Because Hardy brought up a lot of talking points about duck's care, breeds, and water needs, Kierzek asked if his staff could assist with creating an ordinance. Hardy was in favor of getting advice from the zookeepers.

Kierzek was in favor on continuing conversations with the zookeepers, and to have this matter as a discussion item for the next meeting. Sinden commented that as long as these discussions are happening, the Police Department will not plan on taking any enforcement action on residents who currently have ducks. Hardy ended with letting the Committee know that he will have the zookeepers prepare a written report for dissemination to the Committee before the next meeting.

#### Consider Request for Excessive Household Animals – Dennis and Kathleen Thurow

Motion to approve the request for excessive household animals for Dennis and Kathleen Thurow by Kierzek, seconded by Ellington and carried by 2/3 vote, Thurow abstained.

#### Consider amendment to Section 10.06(6) of the Baraboo Municipal Code

Pinion began with stating that there is a distinction between setbacks and yards. Although street yard(s) and front yard(s) are considered synonymous in the Zoning Code, there is an important distinction. Pursuant to the following definitions contained in the Zoning Code, a setback is the minimum required distance and a yard is the actual setback. I would definitely discourage the storage of recreational equipment on any vacant lot. He continued with suggesting any such storage continue to be restricted exclusively to side or rear yards. He mentioned a similar restriction on accessory structures and expressed concern that allowing storage of recreational equipment in the front or street yards will only encourage accessory structures, such as carports, to protect them. The Zoning Code regulates carports as accessory structures and they are strictly prohibited from front yards.

He believes there could be a temporary exception to allow parking of the owner's, or in the case of a rental property, the tenant's recreational equipment in a driveway in a front yard, provided it is for a limited time, i.e. 48 hours, 72 hours, 1 week, etc. There is currently no restriction on the time that recreational equipment can be parked in a driveway located in either a side or rear yard. He also expressed concern about the City getting involved with regulating any use of shared driveways; it should continue to be up to the parties that share it to determine how it is used and to be regulated the same as any other driveway, accordingly. He continued with stating that if people want to create a "parking pad" for their recreational equipment, it would be treated as a driveway or parking lot, and as such, the City Code requires all such areas to be hard surfaced – either asphalt pavement or concrete. Gravel does not suffice. He ended with questioning the need to make sure that recreational equipment is properly registered and/or licensed, similar to the requirements for vehicle storage.

Direction was given to staff to write an ordinance. No motion was made.

#### Member comments

The next meeting will be Monday, January 4, 2021 at 8:00AM.

Motion to adjourn by Thurow, seconded by Kierzek and unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:57AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Haggard, Finance Director